

TIMES HERALD
18 January 1952

PENTAGON BOWS TO MORSE ON LIE DETECTORS

Other U. S. Agencies Are Warned

Sen. Morse (R) of Oregon said yesterday the Defense department had notified him it had stopped using lie-detector tests on job applicants.

He told the Senate the practice was ended after he had protested to the Pentagon and Defense Secretary Lovett had made an investigation.

Repugnant, Foreign

Morse denounced use of the polygraph machines as "repugnant, foreign and outrageous."

He said other agencies besides the military also were using the tests. He said he was going to

check on them, too, and that if they did not stop, he would introduce legislation designed to eliminate them.

The atomic energy commission reportedly has used the tests at its Oak Ridge, Tenn., installation.

Tests "Voluntary"

Morse said the Pentagon tests were voluntary and apparently used in determining whether a job applicant was a good security risk. But he said that at least one applicant, described only as "Mr. X," had the "reaction that it was voluntary in name only."

"He felt," the senator said, "that if he didn't submit he would have one strike on him if, indeed, he hadn't already struck out."

Morse added that "Mr. X" was rejected for a job.